Dear Parent/ Caregiver,

Our school is pleased to announce that next term we will be participating in the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure’s Way2Go Bike Ed program. Way2Go Bike Ed is a practical bicycle education program targeting students from year 4-7. It will be delivered by Bicycle SA with qualified instructors and is well supported by our Way2Go program curriculum plans. Our school participates in the Way2Go program to encourage safer, greener, more active travel; and this year we have a focus on cycling.

Through participation in Way2Go Bike Ed our students will:-

- Build on their knowledge and understanding of the road laws and traffic environments
- Develop bike handling and maintenance skills
- Develop safe decision making skills for both off and on-road riding conditions.

The Way2Go Bike Ed program is a very popular way to support students to understand their responsibilities in keeping themselves and others safe. It builds on essential life skills so that students can live an active lifestyle and learn about sustainable travel options.

Each student will participate in Bike Ed during weeks 1-7 of term 2. During this time students that own a bicycle are required to bring them to school for the first session beginning on Wednesday 29 April 2015. Safe storage in the school bike shed will be provided.

What you need to know and do

**Before the program begins**

- Ask questions, if you have any, and return the permission slip by the due date
- If your child has a medical condition make sure that you have notified the school. You must advise of any changes to appropriate action and ensure medication provided has not expired.
- Check that your child’s bike and helmet are in safe condition. If you are not sure how to do this have a look at the owner’s manual. You could also take the bike and helmet to your local bike store and ask for their advice.
- Make arrangements with your child about how to transport her/his bike to school. This is a great opportunity for them to consider factors that influence trip planning, and contribute to their travel arrangements to and from school.
During the program

☐ Ensure your child wears appropriate clothing (avoid skirts and flared pants), and closed footwear during the sessions.

☐ If you receive a notice of minor repairs required after the first session, carry out the required repairs before the next session so that your child can participate. Access to the limited number of bicycles provided by Bicycle SA will be prioritised for students who do not own a bicycle.

☐ If you have offered to be a parent volunteer stay alert to communications throughout the program. Let teachers and instructors know what you feel comfortable doing and most of all... have fun!

To support your child’s development throughout the program consider the following:

△ Talk to your child about their experiences after each session. What did they learn, enjoy, find challenging?

△ If you receive information with activity ideas, try them with your child or as a family.

△ Why not take those newly learnt skills and use them on the weekend between sessions. Just like reading, the more we practise the better we get.

△ If you are in a metropolitan area DPTI has provided hardcopy Walking and Cycling Maps and Cycle Instead Journey Planner cards to your school. Ask for a copy to identify quiet local streets and nearby off-road shared paths you could use. If you are in a regional area ask your local Council if they have maps for your area.

After the program

Way2Go Bike Ed provides the foundation for children to enjoy riding safely. To continue to develop and maintain the skills learned they need ongoing opportunities to practise. You can help them with this by:

△ Making riding a part of your routine. Perhaps your child could ride to school one day a week and do it more often as your child becomes more independent.

△ Joining an active travel group. If your school doesn’t have one talk to your school principal about how to get one started. It’s a great way to share supervision and save time.

If you have further questions discuss this with your child’s classroom teacher in the first instance. If they are unable to answer your questions they will forward your enquiry to your Way2Go Bike Ed School Co-ordinator.

Please return the permission slip to your child’s class teacher by 18 April 2015. A prompt reply will help plan a quality program to meet student’s needs.

Thank you.

Tom O’Callaghan
Principal
3 March 2014
Way2Go Bike Ed Parent Permission form

Return to class teacher by 18 April 2014

Student full name: ___________________  Classroom teacher: ___________________

My child can bring a (please tick):
☐ Appropriate size Australian standard helmet
☐ Roadworthy bicycle of suitable size to his/ her height

My child will be nine years old or over upon commencement of the program (please circle):
YES  NO

My child has a medical condition that may affect their safety during the program and the school has an up to date action plan (please circle)?
YES  NO  NO MEDICAL CONDITION

Please rank your child’s current bicycle riding experience (please circle)
(1) Non-rider  (2) Occasional rider  (3) Regular off-road rider  (4) Regular on-road ride

I am interested in being a parent volunteer and have access to my own bicycle (please circle)  YES/ NO

If yes, describe your availability to volunteer.

☐ All sessions full day
☐ All sessions at time (morning/ midday/ afternoon) _______
☐ Only sessions (indicate session/s and time e.g. 1 & 3 all day) _______________________________________

I understand and accept that my child will ride on local quiet streets under adult supervision and give consent for him/ her to participate in the Way2Go Bike Ed program.

Parent Name (print): ___________________

Signature: ___________________